0/088,049

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Gunter Ritter

Examiner:

unknown

JUN 0 9 2003

Serial No.:

10/088,049

Group Art Unit:

2877

YECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed:

June 4, 2002

Docket No.:

12742.0019USWO

Title:

METHOD FOR IMPROVING WATER QUALITY OF TANK SYSTEM

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV347833478US

Date of Deposit: May 30, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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issioner for Patents
ox 1450
ndria, VA 22313-1450
ir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were cited in the International Search Reports mailed on December 15, 2000 and December 13, 2000. Applicant wishes to call the Examiner's attention to co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/088,048. A copy of the specification of the application is enclosed.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the International Search Report.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

US 6,477,982 is the English equivalent of WO 97/34838.

US 6,477,982 is the English equivalent of DE 296 17 181.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

Dated: May 30, 2003

Reg No 25 968

Reg. No. 25,9

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FORM 1449*	Docket Number:	
O P ENFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	12742.0019USWO	

Application Number

10/088,049

JUN 0 9 2003

MAY 3 (1 2002 8)

IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date: June 4, 2002

Applicant: Gunter Ritter

Group Art Unit EST CENTER 1600/2900

A ADEMARY			U	S. PATENT DOCUMEN	NTS			
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.		DOCUMENT NO. DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	US 6,477,98	82	Nov. 2002	RITTER				
								
	<u> </u>		FOR	EIGN PATENT DOCUN	MENTS		<u> </u>	
	DOCUME	ENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
				1			YES	NO
	WO 97/348	38	Sept. 1997	wo			Abstract	
	CN 1 115 6	20	Jan. 1996	CHINA			Abstract	
	DE 195 33 9	994	Mar-97	GERMANY			Abstract	
	DE 197 04	953	Aug. 1998	GERMANY			Abstract	
<u></u>	DE 296 17	181	Feb. 1997	GERMANY				
	GB 1 415 453		Nov. 1975	GREAT BRITAIN				
	JP 61-96959	9	May-86	JAPAN			Abstract	
	WO 96/269	05	Sept. 1996	wo			Abstract	
	<u> </u>	OTHER	DOCUMENTS	(Including Author, Title,	Date, Pertinent I	Pages, Etc.)	TE	
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.





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Gunter Ritter

Examiner:

unknown

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2877

Jun 0 9 2003

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June 4, 2002

Docket:

Date:

12742.0019USWO

Confirmation

Notice of Allow.

n/a

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

No.:

Due Date:

n/a

6718

Title:

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Name

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing

Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 9 Reference(s), Copy of International Search Report

Other: Copy of the specification for US Patent Application 10/088,048.

Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 612.332.5300

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Name: Ronald A. Daignault

Reg. No.: 25,968 R. Daignault:smm